



Vol. 51 No. 26

July 15, 2005

Aviano Air Base, Italy

Fly Bys

Change of command

Maj. Lester Weilacher will assume command of the 31st Comptroller Squadron from Lt. Col. Carol Giachetti, 12:30 p.m. July 25 at La Bella Vista. The 31st Comptroller Squadron will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for the ceremony. For emergency service, call 335-560-1241.

Auto Skills Center

Aviano Auto Skills will be closed today through July 31. The center will reopen Aug. 1 at the new location in the Flightline Area, Bldg. 1464, behind Outdoor Recreation.

Small arms range

The Aviano Small Arms Firing Range is off limits to unauthorized personnel and should be considered dangerous at all times. The range, Bldg. 1142, which is located off the flightline perimeter road adjacent to the Sierra Area, is routinely used to conduct live-fire weapons training. Trespassing at any time is illegal and dangerous. Anyone needing access to the firing range area must call the Combat Arms NCOIC at Ext. 7887.



senior Airman Nicole Adamowicz

Heating up

Rolando Segatto, a power production craftsman with the 31st Civil Engineering Squadron, uses a Magna Cutter Torch to cut a piece of sheet metal June 29.

603rd ACS provides front line defense

By Senior Airman Jodi Stevens

603rd Expeditionary Air Control Squadron

A large part of the 603rd Air Control Squadron Scorpions is currently deployed to Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

From setting up a bare base to relocating tents for improved living conditions, the 603rd Expeditionary Air Control Squadron at Kandahar knows how to get the job done effectively and safely.

Although the Scorpions prepared with numerous training exercises during in-garrison operations, specific planning for OEF began in March when a site survey team was sent to Afghanistan to explore the area and determine the essential equipment and personnel necessary to carry out the unit's tasks.

In May, the 603rd mem-

See ACS, page 5 —

Office closure: The Civilian Personnel Office will be closed 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. July 22 for an office function.

Aviano Sortie Board

sortie: n, a flight of a combat aircraft on a mission

	Hours	Sorties
31st FW goal	633.6	253
ahead/behind	68.4	22
555th FS goal	194.1	136
ahead/behind	7.1	8
510th FS goal	439.5	117
ahead/behind	61.3	14



Nighthawks

Combat program offers the Aviano community a sneak peak at what really happens around the base when the sun goes down.

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Gearing up

In preparation for the upcoming exercise, Aviano Airmen get a refresher course on self-aid buddy care and UXO training.

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Vigileer
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31st Fighter Wing

Commander's Corner

By Brig. Gen. Robert Yates
31st Fighter Wing commander

Good Morning Aviano!

Well...time to put another great week up in the barn. There's so much good going on here that it's hard to narrow the article down to a focus on just a couple of things... but I'll give it a try! First I'd like to talk to you all about Wednesday's "Spouse It Up" gathering. It was a display of summer fun and Americana in it's purest form – children screaming with delight as they were hosed down by a real firetruck. Others giggling as they bounced around in the 'bouncy castle'. Moms and Dads taking it easy as they watched their younguns enjoying themselves. And all of this came together because the Aviano Family teamed up to make it happen. Family support was part of the team. Services Squadron was part of the team. The Enlisted Spouses Club "Aces" were part of the team. My wife, Barb, was part of the team. And countless others made up a combined team that worked together to make this happen – the right way and for all the right reasons. I'm extremely proud of what I saw, and I hope to see this more frequently in the future. Thanks to all...and well done!

And then on the business end of the Aviano Combat Team, I witnessed more of the same. We hosted a team of Russian officers here this week. They were here to take a look at what we do – and left favorably impressed by our organization. We reviewed our Combat Programs this week; "Doctor Yates" assessment: he gave the 31st FW a clean bill of combat health, stating that, "careful analysis reveals that we continue to climb the ladder to the top in these measures of how well we take care of our facilities, visitors, and one another." In other words, y'all are doing great taking care of people, and the combat program statistics are showing that.

And flying – hard earned sortie produc-

tion -- continues to go on at peak performance as our maintainers produce top quality sorties to keep the fine edge on the 31st FW combat machine. This leads me no to broach this week's final subject matter – next week's exercise.

Next week we will hone our ability to generate sorties and operate in a non-peacetime environment. We will convene a battle staff to command and control the thoroughbreds which make up the 31st FW combat team. The 31st FW team will be tasked to produce sorties as tasked by simulated higher headquarters. We will throw some curve balls to 'stress the system.'

However, each of you need to understand that we will not do a single thing next week that is worth a single injury to a single Aviano Combat Team Member. Not a single thing. We'll push it up, we'll stress the system, but your safety is paramount. A simple review of safety statistics reveals that we hurt more folks by far in peacetime than in combat. Let's be sure that during next week's simulated conditions we hurt no one due to inappropriate sense of urgency or risk assessment. The foe will be simulated. You all are real. The real folks must win, and do so safely. My bottom line is this – give me 110 percent, but don't hurt yourself or others while so doing. Stop short of the 'high risk' line and we'll all perform better as a result.

Time now to sign off. I'll see y'all at today's theater ribbon cutting and the showing of the new "Star Wars" flick! It'll be a wonderful affair. Have a relaxing and safe weekend, keep up the great work, and I'll see you all Monday back at the Aviano Combat Ranch!



Brig. Gen. Robert Yates presents a coin to Airman 1st Class BreAnna Martinez, after she spent the day as his shadow.

Aviano Airman of the Week

Name: Airman 1st Class BreAnna Martinez
Unit: 31st Fighter Wing, command post emergency actions controller
Hometown: Round Mountain, Nv.
Hobbies: Traveling and Sight Seeing
Why Joined: For the education and travel opportunities
Accomplishments: "A1C Martinez was selected because she was the command post Controller of the Quarter for her outstanding performance during the recent SI. She's the "go-to" person here in the CP; she's always looking for ways to improve our operations. She loves being in the military and is looking forward to making it a career," said Senior Master Sgt. Joyce Parker.

Maintenance spouses create benchmark for other units

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs office

Aviano spouses need not navigate the military lifestyle alone, thanks to the many spouse groups available here that offer support.

Called key spouse groups, those married to the military have banded together to create a network of individuals ready to support each other during moves, deployments, separations, and while raising families and building careers.

"It's very hard to transition here at Aviano," said Lynn Maucieri, a representative for the 31st Maintenance Squadron spouse group. "People can learn so much by joining one of these groups and by helping each other."

The Aviano Family Support Center recognizes the need for military spouses to have a strong support system. According to its Web site, the spouse plays a central role in the mental, emotional and physical health of the servicemember: the spouse is the family's bloodline during deployments and separations.

Unlike spouse clubs which are often separated as either enlisted, civilian or officer; key spouse groups are made up of spouses of all ranks who belong to a certain unit. They are formed in the name of readiness: they have direct contact with their spouses' unit's leadership.

"The group is a big thing," said Mrs. Maucieri. "It's a place for spouses to go for information, friends and help when they need it." Her squadron's group has been together for nearly three years and is a benchmark for other key spouse groups around the base.

"Our squadron is so big that we divided up into 10 different flights," she said. Now, it's an even bigger, active machine, ready to do good for its members and the community. "We meet once a month, decide which projects and fundraisers to cover. We sometimes do things like bring food and drinks to the gate guards. It's all in the name of being involved, putting these spouses out there and



Senior Airman Mike Meares

helping them learn about the military and life here at Aviano." Other forms of support include helping new families in-process the base, find homes, furniture and items for the family.

"We even give out loaner cell phones so they can be connected immediately," Mrs. Maucieri said. Telephone connection is a good thing, especially since the spouse's group is setting up a telephone hotline.

"It will provide a spouse with someone to talk to, to get immediate information. The person on the hotline will be trained extensively and will be able to provide them with the answers they need."

Working hand-in-hand with the units and, often, the family support center, the key spouse groups are the lifeline for those left behind. "The group exists to help each other," said Mrs. Maucieri. "Bottom line: we take care of the spouses."

Eagle Eyes: Call Aviano's Eagle Eyes program at Ext. 7200 to report any suspicious behavior or people in their neighborhoods.

ACS, from page 1

bers and equipment flew over 3,100 miles, from Aviano Air Base, Italy. Once on site, constructing work centers, assessing security needs and evaluating site conditions were just highlights of the initial activities stirring within the new Scorpions' nest. Within two weeks of the main body's arrival, the Scorpions were ready to strike, mission capable, and anxious to take over operations.

The official Transfer of Authority ceremony commenced June 1, 2005 at 3 a.m. The sun shone brightly and spirits were high as the Marine Air Control Squadron, deployed from both Cherry Point and Beaufort, SC, relinquished control of the mission to the 603rd Airmen. The events of the ceremony were tailor-designed from the standards and traditions of both services. This unique gathering and the few weeks prior offered both Marines and Airmen a glimpse of the other services discipline and dedication. After a year of controlling OEF missions, the Marines were an

invaluable resource for the transition of command to the Air Force.

As an enabler, the 603rd EACS will be on station for a total of two AEF cycles with members swapping out between AEF rotations.

The 603rd EACS OEF mission is to provide front-line, real-time command and control of the airspace over Afghanistan 24/7 in support of US and coalition ground forces. The unit provides surveillance of the air space via the TPS-75 tactical radar and distributes the air picture to the Combined Air Operations Center (CAOC). The operators control air activity through ground-to air radio communication and manage all airborne missions to include aerial refueling, reconnaissance and close air support. To accomplish this mission, the unit deployed with Airmen from 17 different AFSCs and over 400 short-tons of equipment.

"One Team, One Fight" is a fundamental expression in our mobile ACS, where every area of expertise

603rd ACS history: The 603rd Air Control Squadron was officially activated Dec. 31, 1945. The unit was under the operational control of the 501st Tactical Control Group. On May 25, 1948 the unit was re-aligned to report to the 7400th Air Force Communications Wing and Dec. 1, 1948 it was redesignated the 603rd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. Its mission was to provide early warning radar and direction-finding network to support tactical air operations of USAFE and to provide navigational aids to friendly aircraft.

is indispensable and interlaced with a variety of others to create an effective element in the execution of our mission. The resources, imagination, and motivation of the Airmen on our team are key factors contributing to our living standards, unit morale, and over all deployment experience here at Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Focus on Combat and Special Interest Programs

Combat Proud

Combat Proud is aimed at improving the appearance of our bases to foster pride, productivity and to strengthen commitment to our professional military way of life. This command-wide program is designed to ensure our installations are functional, safe, and meet appearance guidelines that assure consistency, architectural compatibility, and the highest standards. Take pride in our buildings, their interiors, and surroundings as first impressions are lasting ones. The program's overall goal is to improve base appearance throughout USAFE.



Capt. Eric Elliott

Night owls

Airman 1st Class Brant Browning, 31st Maintenance Squadron, repairs a hydraulic hose in the engine compartment of a bomb lifter. The 31st MXS was one of the squadrons visited by the Combat Nighthawk team Monday night. Combat Nighthawk is a professional development program designed to hone leadership skills and increase operational awareness. The program teams an officer, a senior NCO and an NCO together to represent the wing commander after normal duty hours. The team is exposed to the many unrecognized facets of an operational air base.

Earn it: Transfer credits of a CCAF into a Bachelor of Science in Professional Aeronautics. For more information, call Ext. 5140.

DoD changes emergency data form

By Jim Garamone
*American Forces
Press Service*

Two sad cases recently highlighted the need for service members to designate who should receive their remains if they are killed in action.

DOD has changed the Record of Emergency Data Form -- DD Form 93 -- to require service members to designate exactly who should be declared the "person authorized to direct disposition" of remains.

The change grew out of the cases of a Soldier and a Marine killed in Iraq earlier this year. In both cases, the men -- both unmarried -- had not designated a person authorized to direct disposition, and their parents were divorced.

"The tragedy of loss in the two cases was compounded for the surviving parents because neither one was granted sole custody of the service member when they were divorced," said John M. Molino, the deputy undersecretary

To change or update record of emergency data, visit the Air Force Personnel Center Web page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>. Click on the "vMPF" logo at the top of the page.

of defense for military community and family policy.

Mr. Molino made the statement in letters to California Rep. Sam Farr and Nevada Rep. Shelley Berkley.

With no one specified as to whom should receive their remains, the services followed long-standing rules. In these cases, the older parent received the remains. In the Soldier's case, burial was delayed for weeks until a court ruled on the situation. The Marine's case is still pending.

Previously, service members could volunteer information on persons authorized to direct disposition of remains. The change will make that information mandatory.

Know your Air Force history July

July 26, 1947 - President Harry Truman had approved the National Security Act of 1947. He also issued Executive Order 9877 which by presidential directive outlined the duties of the three services. Each was responsible for the area in which it operated -- ground, sea and air, although the Navy retained an air arm and the Marine Corps.

July 31, 1941 - The U.S. Army Air Force officially establishes Tuskegee Army Air Field.

July 19, 1957 - The U.S. Air Force fires the first air-to-air nuclear defense rocket, the Douglas MB-1 Genie, from an F-89J over Yucca Flat, Nev.

July 29, 1952 - An RB-45 assigned to the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing flies from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, to Yokota Air Base, Japan, making the first nonstop transpacific flight by a jet aircraft.

July 16, 1971 - Jeanne Holm, director of Women in the Air Force, became the first woman promoted to brigadier general.

For more Air Force history, visit <http://www.af.mil/history/>.

Afghanistan, Iraqi campaign medals approved

The Air Force has authorized wear of the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the Iraqi Campaign medals.

The Department of Defense campaign medals apply to active duty, Reserve and Guard members deployed on or after Oct. 24, 2001 for Operation Enduring Freedom and March 19, 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Airmen must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in Afghanistan or Iraq for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days to be eligible. The ACM is awarded for service for all land areas and all airspaces above Afghanistan. The ICM is for service covering all land areas of Iraq, all adjoining water areas out to 12 nautical miles and all airspaces above those areas.

Service members are not entitled to more than one campaign and/or expeditionary medal for the same action, achievement, or period of service. In addition, there are no devices for the

ACM, ICM, and Global War on Terrorism Medal.

A period of service is defined as an area of deployment, and includes the number of days criteria outlined above. Members begin a second period of service when they forward deploy or return to home station and then redeploy later.

Airmen deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, who have 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days, between the eligibility period and April 30, 2005 may elect to wear either the appropriate campaign medal or the GWOT-E medal, but not both.

Those who deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, who have 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days, after April 30 can only earn the respective campaign medal for the area they served in.

The Air Force Personnel Center here will do a mass system update in August to convert GWOT-E medals to ACMs or ICMs, for Airmen now eligible for one of the campaign medals.

For more information on other ribbons approved since Sept. 11, 2001, visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/awards.

The Awards and Decorations page is designed to give members a place to see the ribbon order of precedence, the corresponding medals, and the history behind the awards and decorations.

Airmen who do not want the GWOT-E medal converted should notify their commander's support staff or military personnel flight.

The ACM shall be positioned below the Kosovo Campaign Medal above the ICM, and the ICM shall be positioned below the ACM and above the GWOT medal.

For more information, call military personnel flight at Ext. 7255. (Air Force Personnel Center)

Crosstraining: Airmen interested in cross-training can visit <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/htm> for more information.

Air Force makes changes to fitness test criteria

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

Air Force officials are making a few changes to the physical fitness test used to assess the fitness of Airmen.

In January 2004, the Air Force underwent a major change in the way it looked at fitness. As part of the Fit to Fight program, a more stringent physical fitness assessment that measures aerobic fitness, physical strength/endurance and body composition was adopted.

Now, 18 months into the program, senior leaders are ready to tweak the assessment to make it even better, said Lt. Gen. (Dr.) George Peach Taylor Jr., Air Force surgeon general.

"We have gotten together a group of scientists and done surveys asking folks if they like the assessment and are there issues with it," Dr. Taylor said. "This last year we brought an update to Corona and are now in the middle of updating a few changes to the Air Force instruction that defines the fitness evaluation."

Updates to AFI 10-248 will include a change in how body composition is measured, a new table for the running portion of the test that takes into account the runner's elevation, and a change in the number of days an Airman must wait before retesting after having scored in the marginal category.

Under the original fitness evaluation, body composition scores were based on abdominal circumference only. The updated AFI will direct that body composition also be measured using body mass index.

BMI is calculated by dividing weight in pounds by height in inches squared, and multiplying the result by 703. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, those with a BMI between 18.5 and 24.9 are considered to be normal. Those with a BMI of 25 or above are considered overweight.

Under the updated AFI, Airmen with a BMI of less than 25 will earn the full 30 points for body composition. For Airmen who score

a BMI 25 and above, Dr. Taylor said the results of the waist measurement would be used to calculate their test score.

"That will still be an important measure of their health," he said. "Waist measure is closely related to increased risk for metabolic syndrome, diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. Fat distribution is the critical indicator, as opposed to weight."

For those who score marginal, between 70 and 74.9 points, the Air Force plans to correct the time to retest at 90 days; currently, retest for marginal category is 180 days. This will be consistent with the retest time for poor scores, those less than 70.

Changes to the AFI will also include adjustment for those at high-altitude installations. This applies to those at installations with an elevation of 5,000 feet or greater, Dr. Taylor said.

"We'll use the formula for altitude calculations recommended by the National Collegiate Athletic Association," he said.

The Air Force continues to look at ways to improve the fitness evaluation and remains committed to the Fit to Fight program, Dr. Taylor said, because the program has proven successful.

"Participation at fitness centers is up 30 percent now," he said. "And if you go to the field, like in Iraq or Afghanistan, you will find a continued focus on health."

The assessment is not the focus of the fitness program, but a tool to assess the commander's fitness training program.

"I want to make very clear that my focus is not on passing a fitness test once a year," said Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, in his Oct. 17, 2003, Chief's Sight Picture. "More important, we are changing the culture of the Air Force. This is about our preparedness to deploy and fight. It's about warriors. It is about instilling an expectation that makes fitness a daily standard -- an essential part of your service."

Dr. Taylor said he hopes the changes to the AFI will be made by late August or early September.

Alarm Red, Alarm Red, Alarm



Senior Airman Nichole Adamowicz

Senior Airman Terri Adams briefs about M-295 paper, which is used to decontaminate people and equipment, at the Ability to Survive and Operate training Monday and Tuesday at Hangar One.

Reporting Unexploded Ordnance

A Spot Report – clearly identifies the location of the UXO, briefly describes the item, and provides the opportunity to include other significant information.

- The first-echelon report that is sent when an observer detects UXO
- Forward the UXO Spot Report to the Unit Control Center or chain of command
- Once the information is recorded, the report is sent or called in to the SRC EOD representative by the fastest means available

Warning – do not transmit or key radios within 8 meters (25 feet) of a UXO when using a handheld radio or within 30 meters (100 feet) of a UXO when using a vehicle radio. It may cause a detonation.

When you hear the alarm sound, what to do? As the Aviano prepares for the upcoming Phase Response Exercise, 31st Fighter received a refresher course on how to handle attacks, deal with unexploded ordnance and apply self-aid.

Unexploded Ordnance

Ref TO 60A-1-1-4, 60A-1-1-22, AFI 91-201, Vol 4, AFI 32-3001

UXOs are hazards that pose a risk of causing injury or death. UXOs can be conventional, chemical, biological, or any combination thereof. UXOs can be missiles, bombs, rockets, mines, or other devices that range in size from very small to large. If you discover or suspect an object is a UXO, follow the 4R's—Recognize, Record, Retreat, and Report.

Recognize

- Identify the UXO as a hazard
- Remember features; size, shape, color, and condition (intact or leaking)

Record

- Mark it from where you are
- DO NOT move closer – most UXOs have a minimum lethal radius of 300 ft (100 m), and a much greater danger radius
- Use the standard UXO or mine markers or whatever material available
- Ensure markings are visible in all directions and at night
- Do not attempt to remove anything that is on or near a UXO

Retreat

- Evacuate all personnel and equipment from the area
- Retreat the same way you entered or via a clear, well-traveled path
- If evacuation is impossible, isolate or barricade the area to restrict area access

Report

- If reporting by radio, transmit from a minimum safe distance of 25 ft (8 m) for handheld or 100 ft (30 m) for vehicle radios or you could detonate some UXOs
- Provide all pertinent details: size, shape, color, condition, landmarks and grid coordinates

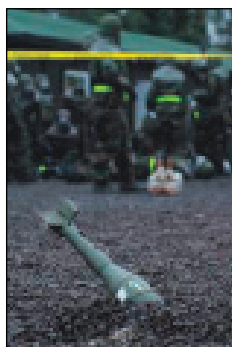


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Tips on UXO identification



Above left: Small UXO – generally less than 3 inches in diameter, carefully construct a double-wall thickness of sandbags within 3 to 4 ft around the UXO. Stack the sandbags to at least 3 ft high and thick enough (minimum two sandbags deep) to protect personnel and equipment from the blast and fragmentation.



Right: Medium UXO – generally from 3 to 10 inches in diameter, a wall thickness of four or five sandbags within 5 to 7 ft should surround the UXO. Stack the sandbags to a height of at least 5 ft to protect assets.



Above: Large UXO – over 10 inches in diameter are generally too large to build effective barricades around them. In these cases, barricade the equipment and personnel activity areas.



Senior Airman Nichole Adamowicz

Senior Airman Cody Carter, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron, explosive ordnance disposal, talks with Chief Master Sgt. Dean Yoder, 31 Communications Squadron about how to recognize unexploded ordnance devices. The briefing also covered how to record and report UXOs.

Medical conference

The 31st Medical Group Resource Management Office is hosting the U.S. Air Forces Europe resource managers conference Monday through July 25. For urgent needs, send e-mail to 31 MDG/RMO@aviano.af.mil or leave a voice message at Ext. 5523.

AAAC seeks officers

The Aviano Airman Advisory council seeks volunteers for its officer positions and general members. Volunteers are needed for the following positions: chairman, co-chairman, secretary and unit representatives. Interested members can send nominations to sulema.wilkerson@aviano.af.mil or lacey.johnson@aviano.af.mil. Elections are 3 p.m. July 28th in the wing conference room. The AAAC meets 3 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month.

Pavement painting

The parking lots of the Aviano Health and Wellness Center, movie theater, bank area, the Dragon Fitness Cen-

ter, flight medicine, Pass and ID, 31st Communications Squadron and the Italian Air Force command section will be coned off in sections for painting through July 22. Call Staff Sgt. Nicolas Alessi at Ext. 6018 for more information.

Munition inventory

To comply with annual inventory requirements, the 31st Maintenance Squadron munitions flight is conducting a closed warehouse inventory Aug. 1-12. The inventory takes place in the storage area and the flight line. Only emergency requests submitted in writing and approved by the group commander or equivalent will be approved. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Steve Metcalf or Tech. Sgt. Robert Bower at Ext. 7419.

CCAF graduation

In order to graduate with the Community College of the Air Force October 2005 class, students need to have all updates to CCAF by Aug. 26. For more information, call

Yvette Simons at Ext. 5331.

Child development

Learn more about child development and behavior, discipline, ages and stages at parent classes. Meet with other parents of children aged 2 to 12 years for support and networking. Class meets in four sessions 6:30 to 8 p.m. Aug 9, 16, 23 and 30 in Bldg. 108, at Area One. Call Family Advocacy at Ext. 5667 to sign up.

Dental exams

Pediatric dental exams at the Base Chapel Annex are suspended during the months of July, August, and September. Appointments can still be made by calling the dental clinic at Ext. 5060.

Free child care

Aviano community members ready to PCS or who have just arrived with a child at least 1 year of age are entitled to free childcare. The Childcare for PCS Certificate is good for 60 days prior to leaving and 60 days after arriving at a new duty station. Call Ext. 5407 for more information.

Girl Scouts

The Aviano Girl Scouts are hosting a western theme round-up camp August 9 to 13 with a sleep-over August 12. Cost for registered Girl Scouts is \$40 and \$50 for non-registered girls and includes crafts and snacks each night, line-dance lessons, water games, horse care and riding at a local ranch and a sleep over with campfires and s'mores. For more information, call Valery Hodgson at 0434--768521 or e-mail her at cookie6886@yahoo.com.

Housing inprocessing

All new natural gas and gasolio customers must have a valid and stamped housing contract. Gasolio customers need to allow seven to 10 days for delivery. Natural gas customers must bring the meter serial number, meter reading and allow two weeks for the gas to be turned on. To expedite gasolio deliveries

Active-duty Reserve

Reservists called to active duty may have orders reflecting the change of status from inactive to active duty, but this doesn't mean the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System or medical coverage is automatically updated.

As part of in-processing at Aviano, Reserve members need to report to the military personnel flight with a copy of their orders and update their status in DEERS. They also need to report to the TRICARE Service Center and enroll in TRICARE Prime.

Failing to follow these steps will result in an inactive DEERS status. Should medical expenses from civilian providers occur, the Reserve member will be liable for payment. Members can verify DEERS information by calling the TRICARE Service Center at Ext. 5133 or the Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator Ext. 5067.

DEERS can be updated using one of the following methods:

- Visit the military personnel flight
- Call the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office at 1-800-538-9552 (Monday-Friday 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. PST except Federal holidays)
- Fax changes to DEERS at 1-831-655-8317
- Mail changes to: Defense Manpower Data Center, Support Office, Attn.: COA, 400 Gigling Rd., Seaside, CA 93955-6771
- Make address changes online at www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERSAddress

and natural gas connections, customers are reminded to stop by Home Fuels before noon. Any questions or concerns may be addressed at the Home Fuels office at Ext. 5083.

Reel Times

Today, 2 p.m., 5 p.m. - "Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith" Rated PG-13 - Chancellor Palpatine with Anakin Skywalker's help, begins to turn the Republic into the Galactic Empire. Starring: Ewan McGregor, Hayden Christensen

Today, 8:30 p.m. - "The Longest Yard" Rated PG-13 - A has-been football star lands in jail and finds himself assigned the task of assembling a team of convicts for a football game against the guards. Starring: Adam Sandler, Chris Rock

Saturday, 2 p.m., 5 p.m. - "War of the Worlds" Rated PG-13 - A small town is shaken violently by the arrival of destructive intruders: Martians which have come en masse to destroy Earth. Starring: Tom Cruise, Miranda Otto

Saturday, 8 p.m. - "Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith"

Sunday, 7 p.m. - "The Longest Yard" Rated PG-13

Monday, 2 p.m., 7 p.m. - "War of the Worlds"

Tuesday, 7 p.m. - "Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith"

Wednesday, 7 p.m. - "House of Wax" - Rated R - A group of friends fall prey to a pair of murderous brothers in an abandoned town. Starring: Elisha Cuthbert, Paris Hilton

Thursday, 11:30 a.m. - "Brother Bear" Rated G - A young Inuit hunter seeks vengeance against a bear, only to be magically changed into a bear himself. Animated. (Titles and times are courtesy of www.aafes.com, and are subject to change.)

Fly Bys

Antique markets

Local Italian villages hold regularly scheduled antique markets. The following schedule identifies the market day for area villages: first Sunday of the month - Aviano, Casarsa, Codroipo, San Quirino; second Sunday - Asolo, Montepulciano, Portobuffole, Florence, Montegrotto, Sacile, Noale, Villa Franca, and Udine; third Sunday - Este, Godega Sant'Urbana, Montebelluna, Fontanellato, Padova, Badoere, Siena, Soave and Trieste.

Travel Web site

Americans with travel plans should visit <http://travel.state.gov> to get the latest travel advisories in Europe. Maintained by the U.S. Department of State, the Web site offers a list of places suspected of anti-American activity, as well as other information for travelers. Call the Office of Special Investigation at Ext. 7643 with questions about the site or other antiterrorism force protection measures.

Experience Europe

The Information Tickets and Travel office offers group and customized tour packages for one-day trips, express travel, overnight and morale tours, sight-seeing and shopping trips. The office can arrange travel and reservations for squadron and private tours as well as daily and weekly tours. For more information, call Ext. 5072.

Traveling reminders

People traveling around Europe are encouraged to remember the following:

- Don't wear clothes that easily identify you as American, such as those displaying the flag, American colleges or sports teams.
- Avoid talking about religion or politics with strangers. If a person ever approaches you with the intent to start such a discussion, ignore him or her and walk away.



Bethann Caporaletti

Name this vacation location

With some six hundred years of architecture virtually untouched by natural disaster or war, few other cities anywhere in Europe look as good. Straddling the winding River Vltava, with a steep wooded hill to one side, the city retains much of its medieval layout and the street facades remain smothered in a rich mantle of Baroque, Rococo and Art Nouveau, all of which successfully escaped the vanities and excesses of postwar redevelopment. Of course, while the Iron Curtain was still in place, the city was seldom visited by westerners - since the 1990s, however all that has changed. The city is now one of the most popular destinations in Europe and is enjoying the sort of economic boom not seen since the 1920s. Be the tenth person to send the correct city and country to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Juan Toves, 31st Communications Squadron, for correctly naming the island of Malta as last week's Vacation Location.

Air Force travel online: Visit www.aftravelonline.com for information on airplane and train tickets and hotel reservations.



File photo

Trieste, Italy is one of Italy's beautiful coastal cities, and home to Castello Duino and Castello di Miramare.

Information, Tickets and Tours

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- Saturday - Switzerland Express (Lugano lake and chocolate shopping)
- Saturday - Guided Florence
- July 20 - Lignano beach and Gulliverland Aquarium
- July 23 - Opera La Boheme in the Verona Amphitheatre.

- July 30-31 - Weekend in a castle
- July 30 - Verona and Medieval

The ITT escort will ensure the group arrives and departs from the destination as scheduled and will do everything possible to make the trip safe and comfortable. He or she will provide general information about the area, as well. Call Ext. 5072 or 5026, for more information.



Combat Fitness

Combat Fitness is a program aimed at improving the physical fitness of Airmen to meet the growing demands of the combat culture. This command-wide program is committed to enhancing mission readiness and the quality of life of the "total force." The goals of Combat Fitness are to: improve the physical fitness and readiness of Airmen; expand and enhance fitness and sports opportunities; improve the Air Force five-star fitness program rating at U.S. Air Forces in Europe bases; have Health and Wellness Center-training physical training leaders to conduct safe and effective exercises; and to have HAWC diet and injury advisory services available to all Airmen.

Aviano Community Center: Call Ext. 5479 to learn more about upcoming events.

Services squadron needs workers

People can apply for the following sports, health or fitness positions by calling Ext. 5747.

- **Aviano Bowling Center:** assistant bowling center manager, bartender, bowling equipment repairer, bowling equipment worker, cashier/checker, cook and food service worker, laborer (maintenance), materials handler, recreation aid and assistant

- **Aviano Community Center:** recreation aid and sales clerk

- **Golf course:** assistant golf course manager, cook, recreation aid and assistant

- **Outdoor Recreation:** recreation aid, recreation assistant and laborer (motor vehicle operator)

- **Wood Skills Shop:** recreation aid and assistant

- **Youth Activities Center:** food service worker, lead school age program assistant, operations clerk, recreation aid and assistants, school age program assistants and technicians

Aviano softball scores (as of Monday)

31st Maintenance Squadron AMMO (A)
603rd Air Control Squadron Forfeit

31st Security Forces Squadron 7
31st Civil Engineer Squadron 5

31st Aircraft MXS
31st Medical Group Forfeit

31st Medical Group 10
Female Varsity 3

31st Logistics Readiness Squadron 14
31st MXS AMMO B 6

Bravo Co. 12
Female Varsity 2

Fly Bys

Crud tournament

A Crud tournament is scheduled for today, with refreshments at 5:30 p.m. and the games at 6 p.m. at the La Bella Vista. This tournament is open to officers only.

Gone fishing

Aviano Outdoor Recreation hosts a trout fishing trip 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Cost is 3.50 Euro per kilogram and there is a \$5 transportation fee per person.

Go deep-sea fishing July 24. The trip departs from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 6 a.m. The all-day trip costs 50 Euro and includes transportation, lunch on board and tackle and bait. For more information on either trip, call Ext. 8623.

Stars and strikes

Now through August, bowlers can earn prizes by collecting punches on three levels of punch cards. Every card completed becomes an entry for monthly prizes and a chance to win \$500.

The Aviano Bowling Center is in Area One, Bldg. 176. It's open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday. Call Ext. 7487 for more information.

Open volleyball

Aviano volleyball buffs are invited to open gym volleyball 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays at the Aviano Dragon Fitness Center. The entire gym will be open to volleyball players during those hours. For more information, call Ext. 7459.

Ladies Night

Ladies can play nine holes with a cart and rental clubs for only \$9 Tuesdays during the month of July. Annual greens fee card holders receive 50 percent off carts from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Call the Aviano Alpine Golf Course at Ext. 7386 for more information.

Remembering American history

Veterinarian shares passion for horses

By Capt. Eric Lombardini
31st Services Squadron

Imagine a U.S. Army cavalry charge during the Spanish-American War, horse hooves thundering across the Puerto Rican landscape, charges led by American heroes such as Brig. Gen. Jacob Kent and by the 26th President of the United States, Lt. Col. Theodore Roosevelt.

Horses evoke majesty in our minds. Strength seen with every forceful step as the column of muscles, tendons and bone which make up the horse's leg rocket into the earth. Beauty, catching our breath in our throats as a herd of mustang spirals in formation, tearing across the Western prairie. The horse and its cousins, the mule and donkey, are part of the very foundation upon which our great nation was born, and that image holds in our mind's eye.

The horse provided the Soldier with a maneuverable mount, easily started and stopped, capable of significant speeds over long distances and of conquering most terrains. It can be sustained on grasses, grains, water and care. Because of its flexibility and strengths, the horse molded ancient history and may very well continue to do so.

The oldest mounted military unit in the Republic was the Light Horse of the City of Philadelphia, later renamed the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry which formed Nov. 17, 1774 as a purely volunteer cavalry unit in defense of the colonies and the continental army against the British.

While the military role of the horse has waned over the years, our nation's history is saturated with the glory of the horse. In 1916, the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps was formally created as a response to the need for effective and organized care for the animals belonging to the military.

While the Corps has been active for under a century, farriers (horseshoers) and veterinarians had been on the battlefields since our nation was formed, treating those animals vital to our military successes. In fact, Veterinary Medicine as an educative form was first established in France under Napoleon Bonaparte in response to his need for medical care for his Dragoon's mounts. The U.S. Army has maintained that need, caring for the myriad animals who have supported our

Armed Forces ever since. Certainly the cavalry is an obvious use, but the quartermaster corps used mules for all transportation of supplies, the medical corps used them for ambulances. Dogs were used as messengers, for search and rescue, and in the forms we now know them, as our strong nosed defenders at the gates. Pigeons acted as couriers, dolphins as mine detectors, geese and llamas as guard animals. Our African campaigns even saw the use of a mounted camel corps.

But it's the horse who steals our collective national imagination. The winning of the West was effectuated with the steel of the Colt, the muscle of the Palomino, the Quarter horse and the Morgan. World War II saw the diminishing role of the equid's part in supporting the military either as part of our supply train or as a vehicle in combat, being replaced by the High mobility multi-wheeled vehicle, the Blackhawk, and the F-16. Today, on U.S. soil, the only remaining military horses are used for ceremony, tradition or recreation.

For many, the progress towards the mechanized made the thought of mounted soldiers somewhat comical; rural, rag-tag bands of militants wielding pitchforks and flint-locks, mustering against a front of high caliber weapons, tracked vehicles and aerial tactical strikes. However, with new battlefields and terrains to conquer, we have seen a transient renaissance of the horse.

The Special Forces troops deployed in Afghanistan showcased the usefulness of the horse in navigating the mountainous terrain as the linear battlefield vanishes into memory. Fighting alongside the nomadic group of revolutionaries, what did the SF send back home for? Better weapons? More money? No. Saddles, bits and bridles were their main needs. A need dictated by the terrain of one of our most modern wars.

Does this mean that the horse will find its way back into the military inventory? Will the Veterinary Corps once again have the pleasure of working with the majestic and magnificent animals? One can only hope, as nothing stirs the American collective imagination and patriotic zeal than the image of a Soldier on horseback, bent into the galloping animal's neck, mane flowing, as a sword is lifted high in a call for a charge.



The Cornerstone

An indispensable and fundamental basis

The Cornerstone Page is devoted to those who support junior enlisted, NCOs, CGOs and spouses. It's to share advice, ideas and opinions dealing with life in the Air Force and Aviano. It's also a forum to recognize those around us. The Cornerstone Page will also offer Air Force trivia and facts.

Submission info: We want to hear from you. Flex your writing talents and share your thoughts with us and the community.

Commentaries: Writers can send commentaries to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Commentaries must be 500 to 700 words. Topics must be applicable to the Air Force, Aviano and appeal to the general public. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Kudos: Aviano members can send kudos to Vigileer@aviano.af.mil with the subject line "Kudos." Kudos can be submitted for appreciation, retirements, awards, good service, promotions and graduations.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Faxed articles will not be accepted by the staff. The public affairs office is in Bldg. 1360, Room 19.

Kudos: Recognizing Those Who Serve

Correction:

In the July 8 Vigileer, we announced Chief Master Sgt. Frederick Pepe's retirement after 20 years of service. He is retiring after 30 years of service.

The University of Phoenix would like to congratulate their recent graduates: Omar Isaac, Nidia Sanchez-Isaac, Dennis McClain, Trenity Middleton, Anthony Williams, LaTosha Williams, Terrence Dickerson, Lydia Larimore, Ray Deck and Bea Muranaka.

Congratulations to the 724th Air Mobility Squadron for winning Air Mobility Command and Air Force Best Small Air Terminal of the Year for 2004. We would also like to congratulate Senior Master Sgt. Tim Pratt, who received AMC Transportation Senior NCO of the Year 2004 and Mr. Gianluigi Secci who received AMC Transportation Civilian Technician of the Year 2004.

- Maj. Frank Flores, 724th AMS commander and the 724th AMS